PAT IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT C.M vore

Applicant: Ronny van't Oever, et al.

Serial No.: 09/874,493

Filed: June 5, 2001

For: OPTICAL METHOD AND APPARATUS

FOR RED BLOOD CELL

DIFFERENTIATION ON A CELL-BY-CELL BASIS, AND SIMULTANEOUS ANALYSIS OF WHITE BLOOD CELL

DIFFERENTIATION

Group Art Unit: 2877

Examiner: Daniel A. Hess

Case No.: 6811.US.O1

Date: November 14, 2002

Certificate of Mailing under 37 CFR §1.8(a):

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail addressed to:

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Date of Deposit: November 14, 2002

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AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir/Madam:

This Amendment is being submitted in connection with the Office Action mailed on August 14, 2002, in the above-captioned application. Reconsideration of the application in view of the following amendments and remarks is respectfully requested.

In the specification:

1) Please delete abstract on page 28, lines 1 to 4 and replace with:

ABSTRACT

Methods and apparatus are disclosed for determining the volume, hemoglobin concentration, maturity and cell shape of mammalian red blood cells in a whole blood sample and simultaneously monitoring system standardization. Methods for

